

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) Process A process for the nitration of an aromatic or a heteroaromatic compounds compound, ~~characterised in that~~ comprising mixing the aromatic or heteroaromatic compound in liquid form or in solution is ~~mixed~~ intensively and ~~allowed to react~~ reacting in a homogeneous phase with a liquid or dissolved ~~nitrating~~ reagent in a microreactor for an adequate residence times, wherein intensive mixing is achieved by crossing channels within said microreactor, selected from the group consisting of wherein said liquid or dissolved reagent is dilute nitric acid, 100% nitric acid, potassium nitrate in 100% sulfuric acid, ~~mixtures a mixture~~ of a nitric acid and a sulfuric acid ("~~nitrating acid~~"), a nitric acid esters ester, ~~mixtures a mixture~~ of a nitric acid with an inorganic ~~and or an~~ organic ~~anhydrides~~ anhydride, or a ~~and~~ dinitrogen pentoxide,

~~in a microreactor for an adequate residence time, and the~~

isolating a desired nitration product is isolated from the a resultant reaction mixture.

2. (Currently Amended) Process A process according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the microreactor used is a heatable flow reactor.

3. (Currently Amended) Process A process according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the process is continuous.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Process A process~~ according to Claim 1, characterized in that comprising:

- a) first derivatizing the aromatic or heteroaromatic compound is ~~firstly derivatised~~,
- b) dissolving the resultant derivative is ~~dissolved~~ in a solvent and
- c) ~~nitrated~~ nitrating in a micromixer using a nitrating reagent, and
- d) ~~the nitrated product is isolated from the resultant solution.~~

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Process A process~~ according to Claim 1, characterized in that wherein the nitrated product is separated off from the reaction mixture by extraction with a solvent.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~Process A process~~ according to Claim 1, characterized in that further comprising flowing the reaction mixture flows through the microreactor at an adequate flow rate of from 1 μ l/min to \pm 10ml/min, and carrying out the reaction is ~~carried out~~ at a temperature in the range of ~~from~~ -40 to \pm 150°C, ~~with the course of~~ and monitoring the reaction ~~being monitored~~ by gas chromatography.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Process A process~~ according to Claim 6, characterized in that wherein the reaction mixture flows through the microreactor at a flow rate of ~~from~~ 5 μ l/min to \pm 1 ml/min, and the reaction is ~~carried out~~ at a temperature ~~in the range from~~ is -10 to \pm 80°C, ~~with the course of the reaction being monitored, if desired, continuously,~~ and the reaction is monitored, optionally continuously, by gas chromatography.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ A process according to Claim 4, characterized ~~in that~~ wherein an aromatic or a heteroaromatic compound is converted into a carbamate in a first reaction step.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ A process according to claim 1 for the nitration of an aromatic or a heteroaromatic ~~compounds selected from the group consisting of~~ toluene, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline, N-methoxycarbonyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline ~~and or a~~ benzofuran ~~derivatives according Claim 1~~ compound or a compound derived therefrom.

10. (New) A process according to claim 1, wherein the nitration product is 8-nitro-N-methoxycarbonyl-tetrahydroisochinolin.

11. (New) A process for nitrating an aromatic or a heteroaromatic compound comprising reacting the aromatic or heteroaromatic compound with a reagent comprising a nitric acid, a potassium nitrate in a sulfuric acid, a mixture comprising a nitric acid and a sulfuric acid, a nitric acid ester, a mixture comprising a nitric acid and an inorganic or an organic anhydride, or a dinitrogen pentoxide in a homogeneous phase in a microreactor.

12. (New) A process according to claim 11, further comprising isolating a desired nitration product from a resultant reaction mixture.

13. (New) A process according to claim 11, wherein the aromatic compound is a benzene, a naphthalene, an azulene, an anthracene, a phenanthrene, a pyrene, a fluorene, a quinone, a naphthoquinone, a fluorenone, an anthrone, a phenanthrone, an anthraquinone, or a compound derived therefrom.

14. (New) A process according to claim 11, wherein the heteroaromatic compound is a benzo-fused furan, a dibenzofuran, a dibenzodioxane, a pyrylium cation, a benzopyranone, a pyrrole, a pyrazole, an imidazole, a triazole, a tetrazole, a pyridine, a pyrazine, a pyrimidine, a pyridinium salt, a triazine, a tetrazine, a pyridine-N-oxide, a benzo-fused pyrrole, a phenazine, a quinoline, an isoquinoline, a chinnoline, a quinazoline, a quinoxaline, a phenanthroline, a bipyridyl, an acridine, an acridone, a pyrene, a thiophene, a benzo-fused thiophene, an acenaphthylene, a thiazole, an isothiazole, a biphenylene, a purine, a benzothiadiazole, an oxazole, an isooxazole or a compound derived therefrom.

15. (New) A process according to claim 11, further comprising a solvent, wherein the solvent comprises an acetic acid, a trifluoroacetic acid, a sulphuric acid, a nitric acid, an acid anhydride, a mixture of an acid and a salt, a halogenated hydrocarbon, an ester, an ether, an ionic solvent, or a mixture thereof.